



## Answers to common questions regarding Forest Closure

### Are Sierra National Forest campgrounds closed?

Yes, all campgrounds on the forest are closed.

### Can I dispersed camp?

The forest closure prohibits dispersed camping and closes forest roads.

### Can I hike on trails?

Trails are included under the closure.

### Can I climb?

The forest is also closed to climbing.

### Can I fish, paddle, or boat on lakes?

Sierra National Forest lakes and streams are closed under the order.

### Can I hunt?

Not on Forest Service lands during the closure period.

### What if I am exiting a backpacking trip?

The Sierra National Forest understands that people have trips planned and vehicles staged. This is not an emergency evacuation, but a closure. People should make an expedient, orderly, and safe completion of their hikes. However, people who are planning hikes and backpacking trip and will enter a closed area should change those plans. *Any wilderness permit that originates on the Sierra NF has been cancelled and refunded through September 17<sup>th</sup>.*

### Can I travel to places like China Peak, McKinley or Nelder Grove, Mono Hot Springs Resort, Vermillion Valley Resort, Huntington Lake, etc.? Can you bike on the roads?

County and State roads and routes are open and not jurisdictionally affected by this order so driving and biking is allowable along these roads but destinations on Forest Service land is closed.

Special use events that use these roads and which pass through Sierra National Forest lands would not be permitted during the closure.

Ski resorts, Sequoia groves, resorts and Forest Service lakes are closed until September 17<sup>th</sup>.

Among many Forest Service developed recreation facilities including but not limited to Voyager boat ramp, campground and picnic area (near Courtright and Wishon reservoirs) are closed. Dorabelle campground and picnic area (near Shaver Lake) are closed.

### Are National Parks open?

Yosemite, Sequoia and Kings Canyon, and Death Valley National Parks remain open. The Devils Postpile National Monument is closed under an order that mirrors the forest closure.

### Are Bureau of Land Management Lands Open?

Bureau of Land Management lands are currently open, including their campgrounds, with fire restrictions. BLM does have a closure order around the Merced River area due to a hazardous algae bloom.

**State Lakes and Campgrounds**, such as Millerton Reservoir are currently open with fire restrictions.

**Are Private Lands within and along the Forest open?** Shaver Lake is open as well as the town around the lake. Other private land is also available to private land holders.

### Are Pacific Gas and Electric Lands and Facilities (PGE) open?

Some PGE lands and facilities are closed particularly those that utilize Forest Service roads for access including Courtright, Wishon, and Reddinger and their associated campgrounds. Bass Lake, managed by PGE, is open when accessed from non-Forest Service lands or facilities. Forest service campgrounds and facilities around Bass Lake are closed.

## **Are Southern California Edison Lands and Facilities (SCE) open?**

Shaver Lake and SCE campgrounds around the lake are open. Huntington Lake is closed due to lack of access other than through closed Forest Service roads.

*It is important to have a good map of the area to identify public lands by jurisdiction*

*The Visitor Interactive Map may also help you identify jurisdictional boundaries.*

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/main/sierra/maps-pubs>

**Are Army Corps of Engineers (ACE) lands open?** Pine Flat Reservoir is open. ACE lands are not affected by the Forest Service Closure Order. Kirch Flat campground on the Sierra National Forest remains closed for renovations as well as closed due to the Closure Order.

## **I have a hotel or an AIRBNB in Shaver Lake, Bass Lake including the Pines Resort, etc.? Can I still come?**

The closure does not affect hotels or other rentals on private land. However, visitors should understand that many of the activities that they would normally plan in and around these communities that are on forest land will be affected by the closure.

## **Are there exemptions for forest permittees who are providing certain services, recreation residents, and other special use permitted activities?**

Persons with Forest Service Permit No. FS-7700-48 (Permit for Use of Roads, Trails, or Areas Restricted by Regulation or Order) may be exempted from this order. Permittees should work with their District Ranger for these exemptions.

## **Does this closure apply to locals?**

The closure is for all use on the forest and there are not exceptions for locals.

## **Under what authority is the Forest Closing?**

The Forest is closed based on Regional Order No. 21-07, USDA Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Region, Emergency Forest Closure. This closure order was instituted at the Forest Service Regional level (Pacific Southwest Region) and is pursuant to 16 U.S.C. 551 and 36 CFR 261.50(a) and (b). For the full text of the document please see [https://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE\\_DOCUMENT/S/fseprd949158.pdf](https://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENT/S/fseprd949158.pdf). All National Forests in California were closed until September 17, 2021 with this order.

## **For More Information Call:**

**For Forest specific information call:**

**High Sierra Ranger District** – 559–855-5355 ext 0 between 8:00 am and 4:30 pm

**Bass Lake Ranger District** – 559–877-2218 ext. 0 between 8:00 am and 4:30 pm

**For general closure order information call:**  
**Forest Service Regional Office Hot Line**

- 707-562-9113 or send emails to  
[SM.FS.R5inquiries@usda.gov](mailto:SM.FS.R5inquiries@usda.gov)

For an Interactive map showing the closure area please follow the link below:

<https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.fs.usda.gov%2Fdetailfull%2Fsierra%2Fmaps-pubs%2F%3Fcid%3Dfseprd533891%26width%3Dfull&data=04%7C01%7C%7C0a44711f1404eeb210808d971586f27%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee03cfa0d4697%7C0%7C0%7C637665446915365302%7CUnknown%7CTWFPbGZsb3d8eyJWljojMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQljojV2luMzliLCJBTiI6lk1haWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=33C5kXcWBTqNrsxRHBNA%2Fw1Nip0tKcEz3xxSdGPb4U%3D&reserved=0>